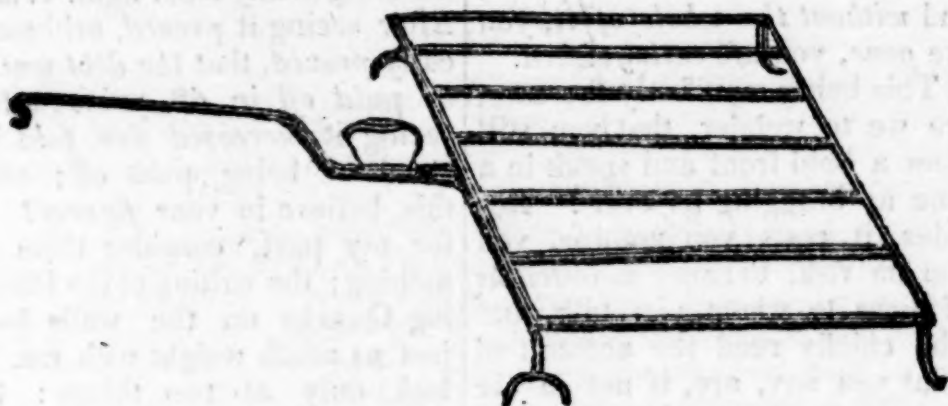


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“ Amongst the means which are made use of to gull this credulous and
“ vaunting people [the English], are those Annual Statements, called
“ BUDGETS, which, like the language of Insolvents, are always boastful in
“ pretty exact proportion to the desperateness of the Nation's affairs.”—

PAINÉ.

TO

MR. FREDERICK PROSPERITY ROBINSON.

ON HIS BUDGET-SPEECH OF 13TH MARCH, 1826.

Kensington, 15th March, 1826.

SIR,

So you and your Collective Wisdom have had another bout at *bragging* and *cheering*! You were certainly made for the Collective and the Collective for you. You beat all your predecessors, except PITT, who put into the King's mouth a most outrageous boasting about the “*solid state of the nation's finances*,” just *twenty-three days* before the Bank stopped, in 1797! And, I have no doubt, that you will continue to brag of the same thing, until the

very hour that the system will go to pieces; for, why should you not? There is no choice for *you* and *your associates* but this: *the system whole and untouched*; or, a farewell for ever to all *place, power and emoluments*. This is *your only choice*; or, rather, the only alternative of your fate; for, events will not let you *choose*. No matter, therefore, by what *means*, you will, and you must, uphold *the whole* of the system to the *last possible moment*. If you had had any hope of thriving by any improvement in the nation's affairs,

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

you would have proposed great *reductions in expense*; but, you know, that, without the expense, and *without the whole of it*, you are gone, you are *extinguished*.

This being manifestly the case, are we to wonder, that you still show a bold front and speak in a tone as bragging as ever? Besides, it costs you nothing, you run no risk, because *nine-tenths* of those to whom you talk, and who chiefly read the account of what you say, are, if not *in the same boat* with you, *hanging on to the sides* of that boat. Men are pretty sure to believe that which they *wish*; though every one can see death in the patient's countenance, he still believes any one who gives him hope; and you are a most *comforting doctor*. Scores of those mean creatures, called "*country gentlemen*," who were, only last Sunday, trembling for their estates and for the places and pensions and sinecures and jobs of various sorts, that they have *gotten*, or intend to get, for their stupid and lazy sons and relations, are now as jocund as felons who have got a respite. You have *comforted* them; you have made them believe, that *the thing can go on*. No matter about the *fact*; no matter about the *result*; you get on *for the day*, and that is what you look to.

As to your *figures*, have you stated them in a manner more *clear and satisfactory* than PITT and OLD ROSE used to state theirs about the *sinking fund*, which has long been laughed at as the grossest of humbugs? This is all nonsense: it proves nothing: you put down, as PITT used to do, just what figures it suits your purpose to put down and that man

is a hypocrite or a fool, who, after all that we have seen, looks upon the thing in any other light. What! After seeing it *proved*, arithmetically *proved*, that *the debt was to be paid off* in 40 years; after seeing it *increased five fold* instead of being paid off; after this, believe in your *figures*! I, for my part, consider them as nothing; the writing of the Blacking-Quacks on the walls have just as much weight with me. I look only at two things: 1st. Whether you have to *borrow more money*; and, 2d. What you are *doing about the paper-money*.

And, as to the first, there is, it seems, to be a *loan* in the *eleventh year of peace and prosperity*! I am glad of this, because it ought to convince even idiots, that the system now draws to a close; while your *paper-money measures* give me the best possible assurance, that there is *no retreat* for you. Whether you will ever have occasion for another "*BUDGET*," I neither know nor care; and thus I should dismiss this one, were there not certain passages in your speech, which it may be worth while to have on record, for the purpose of having sport with them hereafter, as we have had with the Budget-speech about the "*portals*."

You begin your speech, curiously enough, with an eulogium on *education*, the inference which you wish to be drawn from which is still more curious. After a bombastical description of the education which is going on in the country, and after saying that you do not agree with those who disapprove of this educating work, you proceed in the following manner:

"I am thoroughly convinced that the more people are instructed in that which is essential for their good, the more likely are they to see what that good is, the ends by which it is to be attained, and the more likely are they to abstain from the use of means which would be prejudicial in their operation, and which would prevent that accession of power and strength to the country, which are the result of knowledge, for all mankind.—I was about going to use that despised word philosophers—agree that 'knowledge is power.'—(Hear.) To my mind then this circumstance is conclusive that *with respect to the difficulties* in which we have been recently placed ourselves, and in respect to all difficulties of a similar kind, by which we may be affected in time to come, if I find the people at large, *the Legislature, and the Government*, building their conclusions on *sound premises*, I think we may treat with comparative indifference a recurrence of these dangers, partly because the peril of the recurrence itself is thereby greatly diminished, and partly because if it come we are *better able to know how it ought to be met.*"

So! we are to believe, in the first place, that the nation is become very learned; in the next place, that this learning will help us out of our difficulties, because the legislature and the Government, who are even more learned than the people, will build their conclusions on sound principles, and will *therefore* prevent such difficulties in future, or, if they come, will be better able to know how to meet them. Upon my soul, this is blessed comfort, "*dispensed from the portals*" of your wise head! We are to be safe now, because the people are learned and because the Government is more learned. Precious nonsense, to come from the lips

of a man who calls himself a statesman. As to the people, many of them do really understand the cause of these difficulties; but, is the Government more learned now than it was in 1811, when it declared, by solemn resolution of the House, a one-pound note and a shilling to be equal in value to a guinea? Is it more learned now than it was when it passed Peel's Bill, and when the most learned of this most learned body, swinging his arms aloft, exclaimed, in the voice of Hector, that that Bill had set the question at rest for ever? Is it more learned now than it was when it passed the Small-note Bill which was intended to defeat that same Peel's Bill; when it passed that Small-note Bill, which caused the issue of those heaps of paper-money, which produced the distress; and which heaps of paper-money it has now represented as a scourge from which it is absolutely necessary to relieve the nation? Is it more learned now than it was when you congratulated the house on its having extricated the country from distress, and poured forth blessings upon us from the portals of an ancient constitutional monarchy? Is this Government, this famous Government, much more learned than it was; has it much more of the faculty necessary for the building of conclusions on sound premises, when it put into the mouth of the King, no longer than *July last*, a boast of prosperity pervading every part of his kingdom, and that, too, at a moment, when the rag-rooks were just beginning to be knocked off their perches? If it be now so much more learned than it was then, we may indeed

exclaim with the cockney's wife, when she sees the ginger-bread houses rise up, "*wauste improvements, Ma'am!*"

You must be devilishly improved, indeed, if you are now able to reason learnedly upon the subject of these difficulties. What a ground of security is here for us! we are to be secure in future, because you are *so wise*. So many blunders, so much folly, so much doing and undoing, such complete ignorance, never was before exhibited by any set of men; and yet you have the confidence to put forward an assertion of your wisdom in order that we may have no doubts about our future safety. No small part of the whole of the people have been ruined; no small part of the property has been unjustly shifted from hand to hand; hundreds of thousands of families have been plunged into misery. Millions have been starved, or nearly starved to death. All these things have arisen directly out of your measures; **they can be traced back to those measures as clearly as the surgeon can trace back the mortification in the leg from the wound in the foot.** You deny that you have had an intention to produce the evil; and yet, with these undeniable proofs of the effects of your measures before us, you have the hardihood to put forward your pretensions to wisdom! To say the truth, however, it required not much *hardihood*; for, you knew well who you were talking to; you knew very well, that you had an audience quite willing to listen to anything that might seem calculated to give them comfort; you knew that it was not a reformed parliament to whom you were addressing yourself; you knew that

you had nothing to fear, say what you would; you knew that no exposure awaited you, and in short, that you were as safe from that just rebuke which you deserved, as you would have been had you been speaking in a wood, and had had no audience but that of the trees.

Nevertheless, before you came to your statement, your *cheering* statement, you thought it necessary to offer some apology for your bombastical prosperity speech of 1824; that speech which I took care to record at the time; which I answered by predictions which have now been fulfilled to the very letter; that speech, which I have made the subject of laughter throughout the whole country: you thought it necessary to preface this new delusive statement with an apology for that speech, which apology I find reported in the following words:

"It is, **then**, under these circumstances that we have to look to the situation in which our finances stand, and to consider our prospects for the future. I think, however, that before I can satisfactorily proceed to explain to the Committee the views which His Majesty's Government takes of what it is fit to do under these circumstances, I would recall your attention to the course which has been pursued on this subject during the last two or three years. And, Sir, I am the more anxious to do this, because *I have been reproached* in no very equivocal terms, for having, in *certain phrases* which may have fallen from me, and in *certain language* which I may have used in this House, contributed to produce much of the mischief which we have all so much deplored. It may be true, and undoubtedly it is true, that in adverting to the situation of the country for the last few years, during which time

it has been my lot to have any concern in matters of this kind; it is true I have used the *language of congratulation*—it is true I have described the country to be in a *state of prosperity*; and, Sir, I do not depart from that language.—(Cheers.) The country is *not to be considered in a state of decadence*, because circumstances may occur at times to interrupt the course of her prosperity, and for a moment to throw her back. But this I will venture to say, that however I may have erred in language—however, from that delight which every man must feel, at seeing his country prosperous, I may have used the language of congratulation *with more warmth and earnestness than was prudent*, this at least I will venture to say, that I have stated nothing *as fact* on the subject in which I am not completely borne out; and I think I can satisfy the Committee, by a reference to what I have led them to expect in the course of these three years, and a comparison of the actual results with those expectations, that however I may have erred in language, I not only have not intentionally deceived—that is not imputed to me—but I will venture to say, that no *deception or error* has been practised at all.”—(Cheers.)

Oh! you had too much *warmth*, had you! More *warmth* than was prudent! More *nonsense*, you should say; more silly bombast; more of that sort of stuff, which would be tolerated within no other walls in this world. But, you still assert that you stated nothing but facts; that you practised no deception or error. In the first place, you practised a little malignity; for you took that occasion to cry up the goodness and excellence of this sort of parliament; you grounded an assertion that this parliament wanted no reforming, because it had produced such

excellent effects; because it had delivered the country from its difficulties and its dangers. As to the fact, then, you said that the country had been thus delivered; you said, that this was a country smiling in plenty; you said, that the people were happy. All this you said; and no part of it was true as applied to the people in general. You said, in short, that there was a state of cheerful prosperity, of growing wealth, of increasing power, and of augmenting influence. The reverse of all this was the fact. And yet, at a moment when all the world knows this, you now say that you practised no deception nor error. You knew, at that time, that the country was full of those things which you have since called “*worthless rags*”; you knew that there was that speculation going on, that gambling, of which you have since affected to disapprove; you knew that this false money, these false transactions, were the sole cause of the apparent prosperity; you knew this, or you were the most ignorant of mankind. If you had not known it when you uttered the words, you must have known it in a few days afterwards, when I not only told it but proved it to you; and told you also what would be the consequence of your measures. I told you that it was the paper money of which you saw the effects, and not real wealth. Yet you kept on, through that year, through the last year also, and even up to the month of July, bragging of the prosperity of the country; and yet you have now the assurance to put forward claims to sincerity and wisdom; and are cheered when you put forward those claims. Thus, however, it will

be unto the end, when, I dare say, you will be cheered to the skies one day, and the next day drop out of sight for ever. I should not wonder if you were actually to *go off* in one grand, loud, and unanimous cheering.

I now come to your statement relative to your future hopes. You say, that there are persons who think that it is not possible to return to gold and silver currency without a great reduction of the taxes. You bring a pile of figures to show that the amount of the taxes has gone on increasing since the year 1816. Hence you conclude, that there will be no necessity for the curtailing of expenses. You say that you will show the House "the sort of ratio in which "the power of consumption of "the country has increased of "late years." "And this," you say, "will show, *beyond the possibility of doubt*, that all those "fears of our being in such a state "that we cannot go on without "some *undefined and unintelligible change*, all those fears are "perfectly, are *perfectly visionary*." So said Ricardo, so said Lord Grenville, so said Mr. Canning, so said Dr. Baring, so said Mr. Huskisson, so said Mr. Peel, so said ninety-nine hundredths of the honourable, Honourable House, when they passed that famous Bill, which was to set the question at rest for ever, and which has finally produced the feast of the gridiron. Therefore, Sir, your asserting this amounts to nothing, nor does the cheering amount to any thing; for there was even more cheering then than there has been now.

I do not know that any body else has told you that you must

curtail your expenditure, or put out the paper again. I have told you so, and by a document, that you were compelled to hear read. You answer me by *piles of figures*, showing that the excise duties have continued to increase from 1816 to the present day, notwithstanding the operation of Peel's bill. I have never said that the excise duties did not increase. I have never said that they might not continue to increase. I do not say now that they may not even increase, though I believe that they will not; but, this I say, "that "your humble petitioner knows, "as well as he knows that fire "burns; that, if gold and silver be "the circulating money of England, more than half the present "nominal amount of taxes cannot "be levied, *without producing "ruin and wretchedness absolutely insupportable*." This is what I say. I do not say that it is impossible to levy the taxes; for, Ireland convinces me, that people can be brought actually to expire with hunger while an army is maintained in the country at the same moment. With Ireland, before my eyes, I do not say that it is out of your power to raise the taxes in gold and silver; but I repeat that you cannot raise them without producing ruin and wretchedness absolutely insupportable.

Your argument is this: that exciseable commodities are a sort of luxuries; that in proportion that these are enjoyed, the nation is well off; that taxes raised on these commodities are, therefore, the criterion whereby to judge of the happy state of the people. This is the fallacy, the unfeeling fallacy, upon which you all proceed.

How happens it, then, that, while the taxes on these articles have been increasing from the year 1794 to the present day, the *bread-allowance* to the labourers in Berkshire, has, by a general order of the magistrates, been reduced one half! How comes it, that you have it in evidence before a committee of the House of Commons, that, when Mr. Ellman, senior, became a farmer, forty years ago, he saw **EVERY MAN** in his parish brewing his own beer, and that now he sees **NO MAN** doing it in his parish? How comes it, that, during this time, **THEFTS** have increased nearly ten-fold in number? How comes it that the old jails are no where a quarter part big enough? A hundred other questions of this kind might be put to you. How comes it that the day-labourer is not allowed so much food as the felon in the jail? The first of these questions is, however, enough. There are the orders of the country magistrates of Berkshire. There are their printed scales for the two periods 1794 and 1825. How comes it then that this unerring proof of the dreadful fall of the people should be directly in the teeth of the conclusions of your financial philosophy?

Now, Sir, I will tell you how this is; and, if you have (and I really do not say that you have not) any feeling at all for the sufferings of the people, you will attend to what I say. Your fact of an increase in the receipts in the excise duties, would be conclusive, if your premises were correct; but, in talking of the nation, in talking of the powers of consumption in the nation, you forget that the nation may, altogether,

consume a great deal, and have very great enjoyments; but that the most numerous class in the nation, may, and, *by the very means, too, that adds to this consumption*, be reduced to the utmost misery. Be pleased to observe what I say; that the power of consumption, as you call it, may increase, and that the misery of the greater part of the people may increase at the same time. By the jugglery of paper-money; by the use of machinery; by the system of bills and discounting; by immense establishments of tax-eaters; by all these, and many other means, the wealth of the country may be drawn into such masses as to cause a great increase of the consumption of articles of half luxury; an increase upon that which would be consumed, if such drawing of wealth into masses did not take place. If wealth were more equally distributed there would be less of these luxuries consumed, and more would be expended on the real necessities of life. I will use an illustration, which I formerly resorted to in treating of this subject. Suppose a village containing a hundred labourers' families. Suppose the state of things to be such, that these families receive each 15 shillings a week. Change the state of things, reduce them to 7s. 6d. on the Berkshire scale, give the other 7s. 6d. to soldiers, for instance. The labourers' families might possibly expend 1s. each in the week on beer or some exciseable commodity; on this shilling you would have your tax; but the soldier would expend the whole 7s. 6d. on beer, gin, and tobacco. How you would flourish then! How you would brag of

the increased power of consumption! How you would hold your excise receipts up to my nose and say, Here is a smiling country; here is a happy and "grateful people;" here is comfort "dispensed from the ancient portals "of a constitutional monarchy!"

This is the true state of the case. The whole of the system has a natural tendency to take from the labourer, from all the working class, and all the prudent class, the means of buying bread, meat, clothing, bedding and fuel, and transferring those means to classes which expend them on exciseable commodities. The poor man in Berkshire, and it is the same thing in all the other counties, has now one gallon loaf where he used to have two. I mention Berkshire in particular; because there we have the printed orders of the Magistrates at the two periods. What becomes of the second loaf, then? Why, it is taken away from the poor man and transferred to the stockjobber, the Jew, the rag-rook, the tax-eater, or, to some one or other of that innumerable tribe of idlers which this accursed system has engendered. So that your argument is not worth a straw as giving us a proof of what you call the comforts of the people. They are worse off than they used to be. The millions are starving in rags. They are now the most wretched people upon the face of the earth; but, I tell you, again, what I told you in my petition, that to attempt to raise the present sum of taxes in gold and silver will make their suffering insupportable. They may be killed; they may be compelled to lie down and starve in quiet; but,

starve they must, or you never can raise this sum in gold and silver. This, after all, is the only part of the subject of your speech which is worthy of notice. You look at the amount of your excise receipts; I look at the condition of the people; you look at nothing but the power of purchasing purchasable commodities; I look at the capacity of the people for enduring want.

Some one may ask, and perhaps you may, how the working people can be *affected* by the taxes, if they be too poor to pay any? This is supposing you extremely shallow, to be sure; but, you *may* ask this question. The taxes fall on the landlord, fall on the farmer, fall on all *employers*; these shift them from themselves; they must deduct somewhere; and they deduct from wages; the first thing that strikes them is, to take from the enjoyments of others, and, as long as they can do that, they take nothing from their own enjoyments. The landlord squeezes the farmer, the farmer then squeezes the labourer; and thus it goes throughout the community; and the main body of the working classes pay, at last, all the taxes and all the profits of the rooks and of every species of monopoly. Thus it is taxes create thefts; thus it is, that while humane Sir James Mackintosh is securing the poor old women by "*softening the criminal code*" in such a way as to prevent them from being hanged or drowned as witches, the Parliament, your much eulogized Parliament, passes a law to make their grand-children felons, if they take without leave an apple from a neighbour's tree, and to send them to gaol and hard

labour if they straggle across a neighbour's field. Thus it is that taxes make the gaols too small; thus it is that taxes put fifteen men at a time into gaol for poaching; thus it is, that taxes make the poor hate the rich; and thus it is that your system prepares the way for one of the most dreadful convulsions that it ever befel a nation to endure.

From this I come to the conclusion of your speech, which I insert (as I find it reported in the *Morning Herald*), for the diversion of those who are fond of financial bombast.

"I have thus," said the Right Honourable Gentleman, "endeavoured to state to the House the circumstances under which our Revenue stands at the present moment. I have endeavoured to explain to the Committee the course which His Majesty's Government have pursued, and which the House has sanctioned during the last two years; and I have endeavoured to show the grounds on which I think we are warranted in proceeding in the course of the present year, and upon which, I think, I am warranted in saying I may rely on a prosperous future. Sir, I am not ashamed or afraid to use the word '*prosperous*;' for I say the nation may fairly be said to be prosperous when combining within itself all the great elements of national strength and power, it finds its Legislature and its Government striving with just emulation to develop the national resources by correcting what is defective—by removing what is obstructive—and by giving life and scope to what is active. When I see the foreign policy of this country confirming and extending that just and independent influence among the other nations of the world, which the fair dealing, the honesty, and the prudence of England, has heretofore

entitled and enabled her to assert—when I see, year after year, the vigilance of Parliament directed to the improvement of all that is connected with the construction and the administration of our laws, rendering them more intelligible to those by whom they are dispensed, and more satisfactory to those for whose benefit their dispensation is intended—when I see that the principle upon which the Government are endeavouring to regulate the finances of the country, is to combine, in a due proportion, all that the State requires for its honour, its safety, and its dignity—to combine these with the just circumspection of all unnecessary patronage and the systematic reduction of all excessive taxation—when I find this system of measures suggested, enforced, and sanctioned by the deliberate opinion of Parliament—and above all, Sir, when I find that, as far as respects the people at large, the light of knowledge and of reason is gradually dispelling the mists of ignorance and prejudice, and is enabling them, by opening their minds, to appreciate with due discrimination the line of conduct which it ought to be the duty of those to follow who are charged with the administration of their affairs—do I use the language of exaggeration or over-confidence, when I say that the *affairs of this Kingdom are in a right and prosperous course?—(Cheers.)* We may have many difficulties to encounter in our way; we may have to undergo, as we have already experienced, the sudden violence of the unexpected tempest; we may have, at times, to encounter

'The stings and arrows of outrageous fortune;'

But, Sir, if we have only the confidence and resolution to

'Take up arms against a siege of troubles,
And by opposing, end them;'

If we will but pursue our path with steadiness and fidelity;—I will venture my existence that we shall find our dangers and our difficulties diminishing with our progress, and we shall

be enabled to advance with systematic regularity to that great end of all good government—the well-being and happiness of the people.”
 —(The Right Hon. Gentleman sat down amid loud and general cheers.)

If I had been present when you delivered this, I would have begun my answer to you by humbly suggesting, that you had omitted a great number of “*when I see*”; namely, *when I see* a hundred and fifty or sixty rag-rooks become bankrupt, and leaving worthless rags in the hands of the poor; *when I see* the Parliament first pass Peel’s Bill, to do away with small notes; when I see the same Parliament pass the small note Bill of 1822 to fill the country with small notes; when I see the same Parliament now pass another Bill to do away with small notes; when I see the same Parliament, in this same Bill, providing for the issue of more small notes by the bank; when I see taxes expended to make roads, bridges, and canals in the Highlands of Scotland to prevent the people from emigrating; when I see taxes expended to cause the English and Irish to emigrate from fertile countries; when I see collections in England to raise money to keep the Irish from starving, while an army is fed in Ireland, and while the prime Minister declares that the distress of the kingdom arises from a surplus of food; when I see men transported for 7 years for being out of their houses between sunset and sunrise, and transported, too, without trial by jury; when I see the people in the North, eating horse flesh and draff (grains); when I see children in Yorkshire detected in feed-

ing out of a pig-trough; when I see thousands upon thousands of starving wretches, thrown out of employment, and that, too, by the mere operation of that paper money which has been created by the government; when I see all this and ten thousand times more than tongue or pen can describe, the devil’s in me if I can deny, “that the affairs of this kingdom are in a right and prosperous course.” Yet, I would have added, the right honourable orator, who has just been so loudly and so generally cheered, appears to have some misgivings. He talks of difficulties yet existing, and of difficulties yet to come. He even talks of a “*siege of troubles*.” Now, Sir, (addressing myself to the Speaker) a siege of troubles is a somewhat formidable affair, and that, too, in the eleventh year of peace, after a most glorious war, that made us so glorious as to make us content with nothing short of the statue of Achilles. A “*siege of troubles*” after all this sounds rather queerly. And then there comes the IF, that little word of great meaning. “If we have only the confidence and resolution to take up arms against this siege of troubles.” Aye, what, then, we are to make stout fight, are we? We are, it seems, to “pursue our path with steadiness and fidelity.” What this may mean I cannot tell; but the worthy gentleman clearly seems to think that we shall have something to do; some struggle to make; something to suffer; but, for our comfort, if we will but do and endure what is to be done and endured, he will “venture his existence (God bless us) that we shall find our dangers and

"our difficulties diminish"! He should have concluded by saying, that he would then "dispense amongst us blessings from the ancient portals of a constitutional monarchy."

This, Mr. Robinson, is the sort of answer that you should have had; this is the sort of answer to have given to those cheerings with which your bombast was received. Now, Sir, it may be of advantage to you to know what will happen to your system before this day twelvemonth, or very soon afterwards, and I will tell it you. You will do one of two things; *persevere till you effect the extinguishment of the small notes, or, get them out again by some trick or other.* I rather think that the latter will take place; and, then we shall have "*late panic*" upon "*late panic*," till some event happen to blow the whole thing up. If you persevere, whether you extend the destruction of the small notes to Scotland and to Ireland or not, you will produce, all over the kingdom, a sort of dead calm; prices will gradually come down, and all the circumstances of 1822 will return. It may take two years to bring this about; but I do not think it will. At any rate, by the end of the three years you will find the landlords much about in the situation of the frogs in America, when the sun has nearly sucked up the water in the ponds. They will be in such a bustle; in such a fright; they will make such a squeaking and crying as to frighten people out of their senses. They will be divided between their fears for their estates and their fears for their salaries, pensions, sinecures, and various jobs, for their sons and relations. Their

blue coats will begin to look rubbed in the back; their leather breeches rough; their buttons tarnished; their top-boots pretty decent if you meet them, but thin at the heel if you follow them. Their hats will look rather smooth, and their cravats giving signs of their having been many times too often in the washing-tub, and of a colour in which the blue-bag has not been able to keep out the yellow shade. The poorer the creatures get, the lower they will bow to you, and the bow will be lowest of all when they meet you near the crib, that is to say, the treasury chambers, where the fodder of these animals is kept. When they get together behind your back, they will swear and bluster; but, you need not be afraid of the creatures; and, whatever else may happen, we shall have some sport with them at any rate.

Nevertheless, there will be dreadful suffering. These creatures will squeeze the farmers; the farmers will take another squeeze at the labourers; the manufacturers will cry out about the corn-bill, though that will have been repealed in effect by the destruction of the rooks. The fundholders will be as fat as moles, and so will all the tax-eaters. The soldiers will have a right good living. The dead weight will breed away; and to be the daughter of a dead weight man, with the chance of a pension, will be better than to be the daughter of a jolter-headed squire. The farmers, who have any sense, will give up farming, even if they can have the land rent-free. The jolter-heads will try to "*farm it*" themselves; but they will not succeed. The labourers will get all the produce

away from them by one means or another. They have now education enough to calculate the worth of their labour; and they will find that a large part of the crop belongs to them. Towns' people will be comparatively quiet; but the land will, in fact, be given up to the overseers, or very nearly approaching it.

In this state of things you must make up your mind either to take all the lands into your own hands, and make the landlords your bailiffs, or to let them become paupers to be fed by the overseers out of the produce of their own estates; for, mind, I tell you, that with the present amount of taxes, in gold and silver, no arable land will yield one farthing of rent.

Such, or something very near to it, will be your fate, or, rather, the fate of your concern, if you get rid of all the small paper-money in England, I making no reserve on account of what you may do with Scotland and Ireland. Never were poor creatures more mistaken than you and your colleagues as to the effects of the present Bill. You can see, pretty learned gentlemen as you are, nothing but a few small notes to be put out of circulation! Only a few *small* notes. You do not consider that the small notes are the *legs* that the larger notes walk upon. I want to get rid of *all* notes; and therefore I approve of your Bill, if you take off taxes to the amount of one half of those that now exist. I approve of your Bill, because it will destroy nearly all the paper. You imagine that it will not lessen the number of five-pound notes. You say, that the fives circulated without the ones before 1797. So they did;

but not for a long time.. They circulated without the ones for three years; and that to a very limited amount; but then Pitt was compelled to have ones in order to keep the fives afloat. Indeed, what man in his senses can believe, that a five-pound rag, or even a ten-pound rag will circulate on an equality with gold. People take them now because a five is just as good as five ones; but who will take them; who, above all things, will lay one of them by, if he can have five sovereigns instead of it? So that, all the calculations of Mr. Canning about the trifling amount of the one-pound notes, are mere childishness. They show that he knows nothing at all about the matter. *If you persevere*, the quantity of currency will be so reduced as to render no Corn-Bill necessary, for produce will be nearly as cheap here as upon the continent. Then will come the tug; then we shall see what you will do. Then we shall see what you will dispense from the ancient portals. Will you go back to small paper-money again; or will you pension the jolter-heads and take their estates; or will you come to equitable adjustment? These are the questions that you ought at this moment to consider, instead of figuring away in the characters of Marc Anthony and Hamlet. Then will be the time for us to talk to you about that "*undefined and unintelligible change*," which, you say, some persons want. Never was any thing more definite or more intelligible than that which we want. Norfolk petition tells you what we want; and if you do not under-

stand it, the fault is in you, and not in the document. This charge, however, I by no means expect, as long as you can keep the paper thing in existence, and keep it in existence you will, till it absolutely crumble to pieces. There is one thing that men do not advert to; namely, that you and your colleagues have an interest peculiar to yourselves and to the seat-people. An equitable adjustment, acting upon the Norfolk petition, would settle every thing in the best possible manner for the nation; but, it would totally ruin you, and all the distinguished tax-eaters. You, therefore, may well turn from an equitable adjustment; you may well call it an unintelligible change. It would reduce you to a very low state indeed. *Any thing*, no matter what, is better for you, and the body to which you belong, than an equitable adjustment. We must, therefore, put ourselves in your place, before we can judge rightly of the reasons which make you detest such an adjustment. You would tell us very frankly, I dare say, that, when you talk of "*the country*," you are not so careless as not to include yourselves; and that, therefore, to talk about saving the country, by means which would destroy you, is nonsense; and indeed, it is but reasonable that you should think it nonsense. Every body should bear this in mind, and then the wonder will cease that you are so reluctant to adopt the "*unintelligible change*." We may go on talking about the good which such a change would produce to the country; but we reason without our host, if we forget the effect which that change would produce with regard to *you*.

With this, Sir, I quit you for the present, thanking you all for your bill about the small notes, and being perfectly patient as to the effect of that measure. You have struck the blow; you have put the lead safe into the rooks; you have pulled down, or at least, shaken, with your own hands, the best prop of your system, which will now totter and swag till it comes down. WM. COBBETT.

P. S.—As an instance of the dreadful effects of this system, I shall here insert the petition of Mr. CHARLES ANDREW THOMSON, which contains a trifling dose of the blessings which have been dispensed to him from the ancient portals. Never was there in this world any thing that more fully portrayed the injuries of which unskillful government is productive. Here is a gentleman, who, without any fault, without any indiscretion of his own, but solely from acts of the government, is reduced from opulence to poverty. Mr. Hume, in presenting the petition, said, that he feared there was no redress for the petitioner. There is no redress, indeed, as the law now stands; but, ought there not to be a law to rectify such a wrong? Many and many a law has been passed, and that in favour of individuals, too, not a tenth part so much called for, as a law for rectifying these contracts. Here is an instance of the good effect which an equitable adjustment would produce; and, surely those who have done the wrong ought to apply the remedy. However, there is no hope that this will ever be done by you; or, that it will ever be done as long as the paper system can be supported.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of CHARLES ANDREW THOMSON, of Chiswick, in the County of Middlesex, a Bankrupt, under a Commission from the Court of Chancery.

SHEWETH,

1st.—That your Petitioner is the Son of the late Mr. PATRICK THOMSON, an Oporto Merchant in the City of London, who, previous to the late war, had accumulated a fortune by industry, and who, in the year 1791, was possessed of the Sum of 300,000*l.* in Consols, and of other personal property to a large amount.

2nd.—That it is not necessary, at this time, to remind your Honourable House of the mighty mischiefs which attended the *general depreciation of the Currency*, during the first years of the late war. It must be in the recollection of your Honourable House that thousands and thousands of families, whose wealth consisted solely of *fixed Sums of Money*, or of *fixed monied Incomes*, were gradually pressed into a state of comparative poverty, by the general and permanent rise of the prices of property and labour, which took place throughout the Country at that period; and which gave to families so circumstanced, for more than twenty years together, the enjoyment of but *one-half* of the comforts and necessities of life, which their respective *fixed Incomes* had formerly commanded, or which their respective *fixed Investments* had formerly represent-

ed. Among these families your Petitioner and his Father were sufferers; but they were informed, that their sufferings were occasioned by great public measures, *necessary for the public safety*, in carrying on the tremendous conflict in which the Nation was engaged.

3rd.—That, during the period alluded to, your Petitioner and his Father experienced a loss of 85,000*l.* in the depression of the selling price of Consols, and of 90,000*l.* more in the reduction of the value of the instruments of money in which their Consols were measured. Their 300,000*l.* of Consols were reduced in selling price from 92*l.* to 63*l.* and at the same time the integral value of the money, of which the 60*l.* was composed, was reduced in the ratio of from 20*s.* to 10*s.* in the Pound; for during an average of many years, the *Pound Sterling*, or instrument of money, in general use, commanded only the same *value*, the same quantity of valuable commodities in general use as 10*s.* formerly commanded.

4th.—That your Petitioner and his Father, in the year 1810, finding that their 300,000*l.* Consols, which had cost them about 265,000*l.* Sterling, in the ancient coin of the Realm (not only of full weight, *but also of full value*,) were reduced in selling price to 180,000*l.* thereby exposing them to a loss of 85,000*l.*; and finding also that their 180,000*l.* of remaining money, which their Consols would still produce, was deteriorated in quality, or so reduced in value as in reality to be worth only *one-half* of its nominal amount, or only about 90,000*l.* instead of 180,000*l.*: finding

their property thus melting away, became at last seriously alarmed, and determined to invest the remainder of their capital in the purchase of Land.

5th.—That in coming to this determination, your Petitioner considered that he was taking the most certain steps for securing his property to his Family. He was not aware, nor could he by any possibility be aware, that a day was coming, when the cultivation of the Earth was, in effect, to be rendered *penal* by Act of Parliament, and when the ownership of Land was to be converted into a *warrant of certain ruin*, in all cases where unhappy individuals, by any accident, might have the misfortune to hold *one-half* of their land *upon credit*, or subject in any way to *monied incumbrances* of any kind. He was not aware, nor could he possibly be aware, that a day was coming, when a merciless law should confiscate the Fortunes of all *Debtors* for the unjust aggrandizement of all *Creditors*, and when this wholesale measure of unheard of confiscation should be attempted under the pretext of supporting *justice and good faith*.

6th.—Nevertheless, your Petitioner has found, to his cost, that this frightful measure is, in reality, nearly effected; and after having been deprived of a very large part of his property by the *depreciation of the Currency*, which took place at the beginning of the war, he now finds himself deprived of the whole of the other part, by the *restoration of the Currency*.

7th.—Your Petitioner craves the indulgence of your Honourable House whilst he shortly recapitulates the purchases of Land

which he made, and which have been the immediate instruments of completing his total ruin. In the year 1811, your Petitioner and his Father purchased the Estate of Northaw, in Hertfordshire, at the price of 62,000*l.* *which they paid down in ready money*. They then expended 10,000*l.* in building Houses and Cottages upon the Estate, and in bringing two hundred acres of Waste Land into cultivation. Thus the Estate of Northaw, which they purchased from the Court of Chancery, of Mr. Strode, in the County of Hertford, cost them in all the sum of 72,000*l.*

8th.—In the same year they bought also several Farms, in the Counties of Middlesex, Essex, and Hampshire, which cost them 33,166*l.* *also paid down in ready money*.

9th.—In November 1811, having still a large amount of their capital at disposal, they bargained for the Estate of Pontrylas, in Herefordshire, the property of John Ashfordby Trenchard, Doctor of Divinity, of Highworth, in the County of Wilts, at the price of 60,000*l.*; and they paid down to Dr. Trenchard, the sum of 5,555*l.*, as a *deposit*, in part fulfilment of the bargain. The title of this Estate was afterwards deemed not good by the Law advisers of your Petitioner, and consequently he became involved in Law proceedings which continued till November 1818, during which time your Petitioner had not the power to sell the Estate. There was at this time due to Dr. Trenchard for purchase money, and Interest thereon, the sum of 71,957*l.*; and there was due from Dr. Trenchard to your Peti-

tioner, for Rents Trenchard received during seven years, the sum of 6,839*l.*, making a balance of 65,118*l.*, which your Petitioner had to pay to Dr. Trenchard.

10th.—At the time your Petitioner and his Father made these various purchases of Land, viz. in the year 1811, they were possessed of sufficient money *of their own, in hand*, to pay for the whole, amounting to about 160,000*l.*; they were also at that time possessed of other large sums of money, *of their own, in hand*, or immediately available. But in the employment of these sums of money, in the regular and legitimate way of their business, they shortly afterwards experienced the most alarming losses, occasioned by the fall of prices produced by the attempts made by the Bullion Committee to restore the Currency, and the discussions thereon. Your Petitioner had bought in the year 1812, Two Thousand Four Hundred Pipes of Port Wine, for which *he paid down in Cash*, the sum of 156,000*l.*, at 65*l.* per Pipe. Before he had disposed of any part of this stock, in the course of his business, the price of Port Wine fell from 65*l.* to 37*l.* per Pipe; and your Petitioner by this reduction of price, sustained a loss of 60,000*l.*, in the place of that reasonable profit, which the judicious employment of his capital, in the regular way of his business, ought to have ensured him.

11th.—In consequence of this and other losses, all arising from the same cause, which your Petitioner and his Father experienced in the seven years between 1812 and 1819, they became un-

able to fulfil the contract with Dr. Trenchard, for the purchase of the Pontrylas Estate, when, in the latter year, the Court of Chancery referred it to the Master; they were therefore under the necessity of granting to Dr. Trenchard a Mortgage upon the Estate of Pontrylas, and also upon that of *Northaw*, by way of security for the above-mentioned balance of 65,118*l.*, then due to him. Towards this, however, they afterwards paid him the sum of 5,000*l.* in part reduction; and they also paid him the farther sum of 8,000*l.* for all Interest thereon up to *July* 1821. Thus the Mortgage of Dr. Trenchard was reduced in *July* 1821, to 60,000*l.* in the whole.

12th.—At this period, viz. in *July* 1821, after having been in possession of the Estate of Pontrylas only two years, and having received therefrom the sum of 10,240*l.* in the whole, for Rents and Timber, your Petitioner and his Father exerted themselves to effect sales of their Landed property; and among other measures for that purpose, they put up for sale by Auction, both the Estate of Pontrylas and also that of *Northaw*. But here again, such was the depression of Landed Property, that your Petitioner could not obtain one single bidder upon any terms, for either of those Estates. In three months afterwards, viz. in *October*, 1821, your Petitioner and his Father were compelled to become Bankrupts; and their Estates and Effects passed into the hands of their Assignees.

13th.—Upon your Petitioner and his Father becoming Bankrupts, in *October* 1821, Dr. Trenchard

immediately took the proper legal steps to get possession of the Rents and Profits arising from the Pontrylas Estate; and he has since adopted measures to obtain a *foreclosure* of the Mortgage, not only upon that Estate, but also upon the Estate of Northaw, which was bought of Mr. Strode, and has cost your Petitioner the sum of 72,000*l.*

14th.—Thus Dr. Trenchard has literally received from your Petitioner, on account of his Pontrylas Estate, the sum of 5,555*l.*, as deposit money; the sum of 5,000*l.* more, Cash paid him in 1821, and the sum of 24,555*l.* more, Cash paid him for Interest up to July 1821, making in all the sum of 35,110*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* paid by your Petitioner to Dr. Trenchard for only two years' occupation of his Estate, from 1819, when the purchase was completed, to 1821, when your Petitioner became a Bankrupt, and Dr. Trenchard entered again into possession of the Rents and Profits of his Estate, since which time he has received from it 7685*l.*

15th.—On the other hand, your Petitioner having paid to Dr. Trenchard the sum of 42,796*l.* as above stated, has only received in the whole the sum of 10,240*l.* for rent and timber from the Estate during the two years of his occupation; leaving a balance of 32,532*l.* literally paid by your Petitioner to Dr. Trenchard, *without any equivalent whatever*; and yet Dr. Trenchard, not content with obtaining this large sum of money, and with getting back his own Estate UNINJURED AND UNTOUCHED, is now applying to the Court of Chancery for permission

to take possession of your Petitioner's Estate of *Northaw*!

16th.—Your Petitioner is thus stripped of his whole property in consequence of measures adopted by the Legislature, which have raised the value of the Currency in which his obligations were contracted, *without reducing his obligations correspondently at the same time*; and Dr. Trenchard is at this moment endeavouring to compel the Creditors of your Petitioner to give him *Two Valuable Estates*, when your Petitioner owes him only *One*, besides the sum Trenchard has received of 42,796*l.* when your Petitioner has only received the sum of 10,240*l.*!

If Trenchard succeed, he will have 104,532*l.*, of your Petitioner's property, for NO EQUIVALENT, besides his own Estate, UNINJURED AND UNTOUCHED.

17th.—And whilst one of your Petitioner's Creditors is thus plundering him, under the forms of law, of upwards of 40*s.* or 50*s.* in the pound, his other Creditors are obliged to receive only 7*s.* 6*d.* in the pound upon their just debts!! When your Petitioner became Bankrupt, in 1821, he was indeed still possessed of ample property to enable him to pay all his Creditors their just debts nearly *twice over*, *without relying upon his Estate of Northaw*, had it not been, that the same cause of his sufferings still pursued him. He possessed, at that period, a Stock of Wine, which had cost him 22,500*l.*; and he possessed also his Estates in Middlesex, Essex, and Hampshire, which had cost him 33,166*l.*, whilst his debts of all kinds amounted, in the whole, to only 28,000*l.*! But when his

Stock of Wine, and his above-mentioned Estates came to be forced upon the markets by his Assignees, the Wine produced only 10,000*l.*, and the Estates only 12,000*l.*; and a great part of these sums has, in the meanwhile, been swallowed up by law, and other expenses.

18th.—Thus, your Petitioner, without any crime; without any fault, or error of his own; without any speculation or imprudence whatever; has been most wrongfully deprived of a very large fortune, by arbitrary Acts of the Legislature, which it was not possible for him to foresee, and against which he could no more guard or provide than against the thunderbolts of Heaven. Neither the Public Securities of the Government, nor the solid Earth, from which the people draw their bread, have afforded him that protection for his property, which every good subject has a right to claim at the hands of the Government. On the contrary, they have both been to him the mere instruments of unmeasured plunder, of unmingled cruelty, and of unmitigated ruin and oppression.

19th.—Your Petitioner's unhappy Father, overwhelmed and weighed down by so many calamities; after a life of the most laborious industry, and of unimpeachable honour and integrity; after seeing the labours of that whole life totally destroyed: after seeing his Family precipitated by an unseen hand from a state of the most honourable affluence into that of frightful poverty and degradation, felt his constitution at last give way, under the pressure of his sufferings, and, notwithstanding all the comfort that

was administered by his Family, died of a broken heart, in the year 1822, leaving your afflicted Petitioner with Seven Children of his own, and Seventeen other Children of his Brother and his Sister, all looking up to him for bread!!

20th.—Your Petitioner, yet in the vigour of his age, and conscious of an upright life, and of an unblemished character, might perhaps have borne without a murmur the undeserved calamities which hurried his Father to the grave. He might perhaps have submitted in silence to his hard fate; a fate which, it may well be presumed, is but seldom witnessed under any, the most Despotic Governments upon the Earth; but to be driven into the degradation of *Bankruptcy*, and to be compelled to pay his Creditors 7*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, at a time when, if justice were done to him, he might readily *pay the whole of them the whole of their just debts twenty times over*: these are circumstances which, your Honourable House will acknowledge, are calculated to sting the heart of an honourable man, and to compel it to break silence, or to burst.

21st.—Your Petitioner is ready to prove at the Bar of your Honourable House, that the whole of his losses have been directly and entirely occasioned by direct Acts of the Government or the Legislature, which have swept away his property as with a whirlwind; against which no human wisdom, or precaution of your humble Petitioner, could by any possibility have guarded. In the first instance, nearly a fourth of his whole property was swept

away by the measures of the Government, in declaring war in 1793, which reduced his 300,000*l.* Consols from their selling price of 92*l.* to the selling price of 60*l.* In the second instance, his remaining 180,000*l.* was rendered, in effect, worth only 90,000*l.* by the *depreciation of the Currency*, consequent upon the Bank Restriction Act. After submitting to these heavy losses with patience for near twenty years, another sum of 60,000*l.* was confiscated by the depression of his Stock of Wine, consequent upon the *restoration of the Currency*, which was attempted on the return of peace. And now by the legislative Act for restoring the value of money to a level with the ancient standard, or *beyond it*, the whole of your Petitioner's remaining property is seized; and your Petitioner is left to earn a precarious bread, by means and sacrifices to which the habits of fifty years have but ill accommodated his mind.

Against the confiscation of the whole of his remaining property, which is now effecting, your Petitioner appeals to your Honourable House as an act of crying injustice, *not yet completed*; an act uncalled for by any principles of the national safety, or of the national honour:—an act cruel, murderous, and wanton; carrying death and ruin into the family of your Petitioner, for no other purpose in the world but to promote the unjust aggrandizement of other families, whose claims upon your Petitioner's property are not a thousandth part so righteous as his own.

22nd.—Your Petitioner has always been taught to believe, that

“in England there is no wrong without a remedy;” but in his own case, he finds that a most enormous “*wrong*” has been committed, or is at this moment in the very act of being completed, for which he is never likely to obtain any kind of “*remedy*” whatever, unless through the beneficent interference of your Honourable House. Your Petitioner has applied to the inferior Courts which administer justice or equity in his country, but he finds no justice and no equity for him. And whilst he is bandied from Courts of Law to Courts of Equity, and from Courts of Equity to Courts of Law, the small funds which he has raised by his exertions in the Wine Trade are rapidly wasting away; and, for all he knows to the contrary, after a little while the Workhouse may be his only refuge.

23rd.—It is under these serious and solemn circumstances that your Petitioner appeals to your Honourable House; and conjures your Honourable House by all the sympathies which you feel as Men, and by all the duties which you owe as Legislators, to listen to his humble prayer. He implores your Honourable House to stay the destroyer's hand; and save him and his helpless family from destruction. Your Honourable House constitute the Supreme Court of Appeal to which the injured fly for refuge, as their last earthly resource; and sure never since your Honourable House first existed, has a more injured man presented himself for justice at your hands. The Constitution has clothed you with power, for the protection of His Majesty's subjects; and that power should al-

ways be used in the redress of injuries and wrongs. Redress then the most cruel injuries of your Petitioner. He asks for the redress of injuries which he has already sustained, and of those which are at this very moment in the act of being carried into effect. Let Dr. Trenchard be compelled to come to an EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT with your Petitioner. Let him be compelled to receive only *one-half* of the money in the *present circulating medium*, which he contracted to receive in a *former circulating medium of one-half its present value*. Or let him be compelled to be content with having his own Estate of Pontrylas, UNINJURED AND UNTOUCHED, and with keeping the 32,532 *l.* in money, which your Petitioner has literally paid him, *without any consideration whatever*. But let him not, under the forms of law, and the mask of insulted justice, be permitted to deprive your Petitioner of the whole of *another Estate*, for which your Petitioner has paid upwards of 72,000 *l.* Let your Petitioner keep this Estate, at least, from the wreck of his former fortunes; and then by the sale of it he will be enabled to look his Creditors in the face, and to pay every one of them 20s. in the pound. And after this he will still possess an humble bread for his children.

24th.—Finally, your Petitioner most earnestly implores your Honourable House to take his case into your serious consideration, and to adopt such measures thereupon as will rescue him from the ruin which seems likely to overwhelm him, and at the same time relieve others who are in similar circumstances, from the unmerited

suffering which the measures of the Legislature are bringing upon them. And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c. &c. &c.

CHARLES ANDREW THOMSON.

Feb. 17, 1826.

FEAST OF THE GRIDIRON.

THIS Feast will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate Street, on THURSDAY, the *sixth day of April*, at five o'clock in the afternoon, at which time, precisely, dinner will be on the table. The tickets are to be 12s. 6d. each, including a bottle of wine to each person. The number of tickets is limited to *five hundred*, as no greater number of persons can, it is supposed, conveniently dine. It will, in order to ensure tickets, be necessary to get them before the 3rd of April. After that day none will be disposed of. They may be had at the *Bar of the Tavern*, or at the *Register-Office*, No. 183, *Fleet Street*. Gentlemen, who intend to come from the country, may, by writing to their friends in town have tickets secured for them against their arrival.

Upon this joyous occasion, I shall, of course, take the Chair. My disciples will compose the company. It is our day of common triumph. There will be many present, who never saw me, but who have, nevertheless, suffered, for many a long year, all sorts of insults and of injuries for having had the sense to perceive, and the spirit to declare, that my

doctrines were sound. It will be the day of the triumph of wisdom over folly, of truth over falsehood, of plain-dealing over trick and fraud. There is hardly a man, who has had the spirit to avow that he agreed with me in opinion, who has had the justice to speak in my defence, who has not suffered for it in some way or other. There have been fathers fools, or villains, enough to punish their sons and nephews, brothers have punished brothers, and, as to tradesmen who have been injured on this account, they are endless in number. The very least that men have had to endure has been the scoffing of most of those with whom they were acquainted.

And, shall we not triumph, then? Shall we not, now that the truth of all our opinions has been so fully established; shall we not now rejoice? Shall we not *now* exult? Have not our insolent and base opponents exulted over us? When have they been sparing of jeers and taunts, aye, and of acts of oppression? When have they failed to avail themselves of the means of misrepresenting, calumniating, and persecuting us? Let us now repay them, not with injustice; but with mockery and scorn. Let us meet, as men ought after well-earned victory, to shake hands and to exchange congratulations.

The COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT will send special invitations to the PRETTY GENTLEMEN of Whitehall, or, at least, to LORD LIVERPOOL, MR. CANNING, MR. HUSKISSON, MR. ROBINSON, and MR. PEEL, and I hope they will not forget the BARON OF BEXLEY, formerly Commissioner of Scotch

Herrings. If they come, they may speak for themselves; but if they give themselves airs, and call us "*a low degraded crew*," I hope the Committee will tell them, that, low, or high, WE never resolved, in 1811, that a one pound note and a shilling were *equal in value to a guinea* in gold; that WE never passed Peel's Bill, and said that prices could fall only *three and a half per cent*; that WE never said that that Bill had "*set the question at rest for ever*"; that WE never said, that the *distress* arose from a "*surplus of food*"; that WE never recommended, as a remedy for a surplus of food, the raising taxes to *send away the mouths*; that WE had no hand in *passing the Small-note Bill* in 1822, and thereby preventing from going into full effect, that Peel's Bill which was to "*set the question at rest for ever*"; that WE never boasted of the "*prosperity dispensed from the portals*"; that WE never put into the King's mouth, no longer ago than *July last*, the most unqualified boastings about the "*prosperity of all parts of the kingdom*"; that, *low or high*, we never were such consummate asses as to believe, that the interest of the debt, and this army and these salaries and sinecures and dead-weight could be paid in gold and silver money.

However, let us hope, that they will, at last, have learned to abstain from their so long practised insolence. If not, they have a *deal* yet to undergo. Their haughty stomachs *must come down*, and the sooner they come down the better. I, some time ago, reminded three of these pretty gentlemen, Lord Liverpool, Mr. Canning and Mr. Huskisson, that they and I

dined together, just 25 years ago, last August. I observed, that we were all then *just starting*; that I took one course, and they another; that their path had hitherto been strewn with roses, and mine with thorns; that, however, the roses and thorns had, at last, begun to change places; and that "*our destiny had not yet done with us.*" It certainly has not: if we live *only a few years*, they will see that mine was even the *prudent* path.

What! Shall we remember the insolent and malicious exultations of the THING'S people in 1814 and 1815, and shall we not NOW rejoice? Shall we remember the power-of-imprisonment bill of 1817; shall we remember the 16th of August, the thanks to the Manchester Yeomanry, the Oldham inquest, and the SIX-ACTS; shall we remember Bolton Fletcher, Parson Hay, the Hampshire Parsons, and shall we not NOW exult? Shall we remember the false and malignant declarations of the "*Merchants and Bankers of London,*" and of the gangs of *rich ruffians* in the manufacturing towns, and shall we not NOW exult? Mr. O'CONNELL has been censured for his expressions of *joy* upon the present occasion. In those expressions I join him most cordially! What! when the wolf has got a mortal blow, are the long-suffering flock not to bound with delight? *Vengeance* is another thing: we seek no revenge: we do nothing: we only stand by and see those who have persecuted us *fall by their own hands*, and that, too, from a cause created by them *for the purpose of rendering our sufferings perpetual*. And shall we see this without rejoicing; or, shall we, like base

cowards, *feel*, and *not express*, our joy?

Oh, no! Let OBEDIAH GURNEY and DADDY COKE say what they will, we will *express our joy*. For my own part, I wish not only *not to call my friend*, but I wish to *have nothing at all to do*, with any man, who does not now rejoice, and *openly* rejoice. I do not wish even to *talk* to any such man. To exult in *silence* is base to the last degree. I rejoice in the confusion of the Rag-Rooks as much as farmer ever did when his deadly shot had made havock amongst a flock of their devouring namesakes. Whether I and my disciples would be justified in *causing the ruin* of the Rag-Rooks is another question; but, when it is caused *by themselves*, and by their *creators and upholders*, it were baseness unparalleled in us not to exult.

HUNT against COBBETT.

THE following is taken from the DUBLIN MORNING REGISTER of the 8th instant. It shows how cautious the ATTORNEY GENERAL ought to have been in acting upon the *instructions* that he received from HUNT and his ATTORNEY. I have had no application on the subject, and I am obliged to Mr. STAUNTON for this act of kindness; for, though it was no more than justice to me, it is not every one who would voluntarily have done that justice.

Hunt's recent action against Mr. Cobbett was grounded upon an avowal of Mr. Cobbett, that

he believed every word in a certain affidavit sworn by "Poor Byrne," to be true. The affidavit is the following:—

County of the City of Dublin to Wit.—James Byrne, of the City of Dublin, coachman, maketh oath on the Holy Evangelists, that in a report of the proceedings of the English Court of King's Bench, in the case of Byrne and Parkins, he, the deponent, saw an assertion, purporting to have been made by Henry Hunt, to the effect, that he the deponent spoke to the said Hunt of William Cobbett, Esq., in abusive terms, and cast reflections on the integrity of Mr. Cobbett. Deponent solemnly swears that this assertion is totally false and unfounded; and that he never spoke to said Hunt disrespectfully or injuriously of Mr. Cobbett; and that, if he had done so, he would be guilty of the blackest ingratitude: Mr. Cobbett and all his family having acted towards said deponent and his family with a generosity and kindness that totally surpass his powers of description, and that shall remain engraven on his heart to the latest hour of his existence.

JAMES BYRNE.

Sworn before me, this 29th day
of April, 1825,

DRURY JONES.

The authorship of this affidavit was a subject of very lively disputation at the trial. The Attorney-General (for Hunt) would have insisted that Mr. Cobbett's son had started for Ireland for the special purpose of drawing up the document, if he had not thought it would be useful to his client's case to leave it to be inferred that Mr. Cobbett himself penned the instrument from beginning to end. Mr. Phillips, for Mr. Cobbett, and so justly praised by that gentleman for his "clear and powerful manner of statement," made it

quite a point of his elocution to show, that no proof to go before a Jury had been offered, that either father or son ever saw the affidavit until it was sworn and published in the Irish Papers. The expenditure of assertion and argumentation did not end here, for the Chief Justice took the matter up, and employed much logic to show that the Attorney-General should not at all, as he had no witnesses to produce, have coupled Mr. Cobbett, or any branch of his family, with the authorship of the affidavit! After all this contention amongst Lawyers and Judges, it may be worth the trouble of this paragraph, to make it known that the far-famed affidavit was *written in the Office of the Morning and Weekly Registers, No. 4, Suffolk street, Dublin*—that the writing of it took place at the *suggestion, or rather solicitation*, of "Poor Byrne"—that his sentiments were embodied as faithfully as they could possibly have been by a hasty penman, writing in the hurry of business—that all that was put upon paper had the fullest approbation of "Poor Byrne"—and that the entire affair was the work of eight or ten minutes, having *as far as regarded the operative part, as much connexion with Cobbett or his son, as the transactions that are at this moment going forward in the "celestial Empire."*

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

"We are sorry to hear it said
"that several of Sir Walter Scott's
"creditors are extremely dissatisfied
"and acrimonious about the alleged
"transfer of Abbotsford (which con-
"stitutes the proceeds of all his sur-

"cessful labours in the Scotch Novels) to his son; and they say their dividend will be, in consequence, very small. The full amount of their allegation (viz. that he must have known Constable's insolvent circumstances two years ago) is, we trust, not true. The mere purse to a great man is

'Trash—'tis something—nothing;

'Twas mine—'tis his, and has been slave to thousands.'

"But a 'good name' is every thing: and Sir W. Scott, though bankrupt, ought to be able to say, like the chivalrous Francis the First, on the day of his ruin at Pavia, 'I have lost all but my honour.'"

The above article is taken by me from a Dublin paper, which quoted it from the London "*Sunday Times*." This was the first baronet made by the present King, and COUTTS TROTTER was the second. DOCTOR BLACK said, that this beginning showed "good taste"! The "*Scotsman*" newspaper said, that the nation must not suffer the "Author of the Scotch Novels to sink." I hope we are to have no new tax in order to uphold him! The above news-grinder is "sorry," it seems, for this affair. That must be very consoling to the "Creditors"! When the Irish were, the other day, running after this "illustrious" sentiment-monger, they little expected such a turn of affairs as this. The "*Scotch Novels*" may now, if this account be true, be very aptly concluded by one, entitled "ABBOTSFORD."

DINNER AT NORWICH.

I NOTIFY to my friends in Norfolk, that it is my intention to be at

Norwich on the 24th, and that I will dine, with as many as have a mind to dine with me, at the BOWLING GREEN INN, on the 25th.

AMERICAN APPLE TREES.

My Forest Trees, except Oaks, Catalpas, Hickories, and White Ash, are gone for this year. All my Apple Trees are gone, except those of the *third class*. Of these I have some of every sort. There are thirty-eight sorts; and the price is, 9d. a tree. They are all very fine, well rooted, and may be planted out any time within these three weeks or a month. A hundred would be 75s.; but, by the hundred, I will sell them for three pounds. I would advise the putting of them into a nursery for one year, and cutting them down to within six inches of the graft. They will then send out new shoots, and will be fit to plant out as espaliers the next year. If intended for Orchards, they should be cut down to within two buds of the graft; and only one shoot should be suffered to go up.

GARDEN SEEDS.

THE finest Kidney Bean Seed I ever saw, except that which I imported last year. Very fine Onion Seed; both from America. The price of the Onion Seed 12s. a pound. The price of the Kidney Beans is as follows:

5d. for half a pint.

10d. for a pint.

- 1s. 8d. for a quart.
 3s. 4d. for half a gallon.
 6s. 8d. for a gallon.
 2l. 13s. 4d. for a bushel.

MANGEL WURZEL SEED,

- 2s. a pound, great quantity or small.—Swedish Turnip Seed,
 1s. a pound, great quantity or small.

These Seeds, of both sorts, have been saved under my own eye, and I pledge myself for their being of the very finest and best kind; saved from transplanted plants, and the seed harvested with the greatest care.

Resolutions of a Meeting, held at the Freemason's Tavern, and, by adjournment, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the 8th February, 1826; SIR THOMAS B. BEEVOR, Bart. in the Chair.

Resolved, 1. That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that it would be beneficial to the country if Mr. Cobbett were a Member of the Commons' House of Parliament; and that it is, therefore, the opinion of this Meeting, that there ought to be raised by public subscription a sum of money sufficient for defraying any expenses that may become necessary for the accomplishment of that object.

2. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., be the Treasurer of such subscription.

3. That the subscriptions be paid to the Treasurer, or to a person authorized by him to receive subscriptions,

at the Office of the Register, No. 183, Fleet-street, London.

4. That each subscriber shall, at the time of paying his subscription, receive a receipt for the same, in the following form:—"Received of A. B. the sum of as a subscription towards defraying any expenses that may arise from any steps that may be taken for the purpose of obtaining a return of Mr. Cobbett to serve in parliament."

5. That, if it should so happen that there be not raised a sum sufficient to warrant an attempt to effect the object in view, then, in the space of ten days after the close of the next general election, each and every subscriber shall, upon presenting, or causing to be presented, his aforesaid receipt to the Treasurer, or other person appointed for the purpose, receive the whole amount of the sum stated in the said receipt, without any deduction whatsoever.

6. That if any attempt be made, and fail, or if it succeed; and if, in either case, there be a surplus remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, then the whole of such surplus shall, at the end of fifty days after the close of the next general election, be, in the manner above-mentioned, returned to the subscribers, in proportion to the sums that they may respectively have subscribed: and, in order that the subscribers may be duly apprized of the share of surplus due to each, the Committee (here below named) shall cause notice to be publicly given of the amount of such surplus, and of the time for repaying it to the subscribers, upon their producing their afore-mentioned receipts. But, in order that there may be a limit to the business of the Committee and the Treasurer, it is understood that, in this case, as well as in that mentioned in Resolution 5, if the subscriber do not make his demand within *three months*; or ninety-three days, after the times above specified

the Committee shall be at liberty to dispose of the unclaimed subscriptions in that way which they may deem most proper, consulting, in this respect, as far as may be practicable, the wishes of the subscribers.

7. That each and every subscriber may subscribe in his own name, in any other name, or under any motto or designation that he may choose, and that his receipt, when produced (either by him or by any holder of it) shall be as valid as if given to him under his own name.

8. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., Joseph Martin, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Peter Walker, Esq., of Worth, Sussex, William Withers, jun. Esq., of Holt, Norfolk, and William Palmer, Esq., of Bollitree, Herefordshire, be a Committee for deciding upon, and for carrying into execution all the measures necessary for effecting the several purposes above-mentioned, and that their order, or that of any three of them, shall be to the Treasurer his sufficient warrant for disposing of any sums of money, that he may receive on account of the said subscription.

The Committee hereby authorize the following gentlemen to collect subscriptions for the above purpose.

Mr. WILLIAM PALMER, (one of the Committee) Bollitree Castle, Herefordshire.

Mr. WILLIAM BUDD, clerk of the Peace, Newbury, Berks.

Mr. THOMAS SMITH, bookseller, Liverpool.

Mr. C. M. RILEY, Westgate, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

Mr. RICHARD ILES and Messrs. J. and S. VINES, Fairford, Gloucestershire.

Mr. JOHN FORSTER, Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

Mr. W. P. SHIRLEY, Sutton-Valence, Kent.

Mr. WM. BIRCHINALL, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Mr. FREDERICK JONES, Bristol.

Mr. BESLEY, News-Office, Exeter.

Mr. JOHN WOOD, Wettersham, Kent.

Mr. JOHN DRAKARD, News-Office, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

Mr. GEO. WRIGHT, bookseller, back of the Inns, Norwich.

Mr. JAMES BARLING, Fisherton, Salisbury.

Mr. WILLIAM FLOWER, Straw-hat Manufacturer, Eastbourne, Sussex.

Mr. C. W. HAYWARD, Queen-street, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

Mr. WROE, Bookseller, Manchester.

Mr. MANN, Bookseller, Leeds.

Mr. JOSEPH RUSSELL, Moore-street, Birmingham.

Mr. GOODERE, Register-Office, No. 24, George-street, Brighton.

Mr. DALE, Register-Office, Winchester.

Mr. COSENS, Bookseller, Bristol.

Mr. HICKLING, Bookseller, Coventry.

Mr. SAMUEL CLARKE, East-street, Havant, Hants.

ABEL HALLOWELL, Manchester-street, Huddersfield.

DOCTOR MINOCH, Hurst, near Twyford, Berks.

Mr. J. JACKSON, Hull.

Mr. STAUNTON, Morning Register Office, Dublin.

N. B. The Subscription at WEST AUCKLAND has been received.

Gentlemen in the country, who are willing to take upon themselves the trouble of collecting, are requested to send their names and addresses, to Sir T. Beevor, or to Mr. Cobbett, 183, Fleet Street; and they will be so good as to provide themselves with stamped receipts, agreeably to the Resolutions. The cost of these they can, of course, deduct from the subscriptions they may receive.

THE Committee for managing the Subscription for procuring Mr. COBBETT'S return to serve in parliament will meet at No. 183, Fleet-street, on the 6th of April next, and, afterwards, on the first day of every Month, between the hours of ten and two, for the purpose of transacting business connected with the object they have

in view. The Committee, therefore, request that those Gentlemen who have been appointed to receive Subscriptions, as well as those who may have undertaken to make Collections among their immediate neighbours, will transmit the amount of their respective Collections, three days before the time of Meeting, directed to the Treasurer at Fleet-street, at his own residence, Hayham, near Attleborough, Norfolk, or Mr. Geo. Wright, Printer, Norwich, post paid, (the expense of postage to be deducted, if thought necessary, from the sum so sent.) The Treasurer will attend in Fleet-street, during the day, to receive the Subscriptions of such Gentlemen in London, and its vicinity, as may prefer paying them to him in person. The receipt of the several Collections will be acknowledged in the Register of the week following.

THO. B. BEEVOR,

Chairman.

MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending March 4.

Per Quarter.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	56	5	Rye	40	0
Barley ..	32	3	Beans ...	37	5
Oats	22	4	Pease ...	40	8

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended March 4.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	23,790	Rye	258
Barley ..	22,129	Beans ...	3,933
Oats ...	25,403	Pease ...	1,251

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, March 4.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat..	3,890	for	11,609	4	7	Average,	59 8
Barley..	4,285	..	7,198	8	9	.....	33 7
Oats..	16,509	..	20,228	10	6	.....	24 6
Rye	—	....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Beans..	1,605	....	3,099	6	4	.....	33 7
Pease ..	636	....	1,299	10	2	.....	40 10

Friday, March 10.—There are moderate supplies of all descriptions of Grain this week. Wheat of prime quality is very scarce, and for such the factors obtained rather more money, but other sorts were excessively dull. In Barley, Beans, and Pease, scarcely any business doing.

Oats are held more firmly than of late, at last Monday's terms.

Monday, March 13.—The former part of last week furnished this market with a very short supply of Grain, but the wind towards the close of the week became favourable, and the quantities increased considerably. This morning there is a fair supply of Wheat, Barley, Beans, and Pease, from the counties of Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, but not many vessels up from more distant parts. There being but few samples of fine Wheat at market, such obtained rather more money than this day se'nnight, but all other qualities still meet a heavy sale.

Malting Barley is advanced full 1s. per quarter, but the demand for other sorts is exceedingly dull. Beans have sold slowly at the terms of this day se'nnight. Pease of both kinds continue to meet a heavy trade. Oats have advanced since last Monday 1s. per quarter, at which there is a moderate demand. The top price of Flour has at length settled to 55s. per sack.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 10d. by the full-priced Bakers.

Price on board Ship as under.

Flour, per sack	.....	53s. — 55s.
— Seconds	.....	48s. — 50s.
— North Country	..	42s. — 46s.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from March 6 to March 11, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat..	5,019	Tares	—
Barley ..	3,221	Linseed ..	20
Malt....	8,543	Rapeseed .	—
Oats	14,580	Brank ..	—
Beans ...	2,346	Mustard ..	25
Flour	10,281	Flax	—
Rye	—	Hemp	—
Pease....	901	Seeds ...	—
Foreign. — Wheat, 233; Barley, 3,008; and Oats, 954 quarters.			

City, 15th March, 1826.

BACON.

On board, 45s. to 46s. Landed: 47s. to 50s.

BUTTER.

Whether it is owing to the falling off in the demand for the manufacturing districts, or whatever else the cause may be, the fact is, that this market is now receiving considerable supplies of Butter from Yorkshire; a source which has been cut off for many years. We have now nearly a thousand firkins at a time by a single vessel. Indeed, Butter is coming into this market in great quantities from many parts; and, as usual, just at a time when it is not likely to be wanted. We have already a great stock of inferior Butter which will probably not be consumed *as Butter*. Failures, some of them extensive ones, continue to take place; the source of future credit (CAPITAL) is now owned by all to be gone; and every thing indicates a breaking up of the present race of tradesmen. Even some of the most respectable wholesale houses will give a much higher price *for credit* than for *ready money*. Best Dutch, 112s.; Carlow, 86s. to 92s.; Waterford, 82s. to 86s.

CHEESE.

The stocks are not great; and prices remain about the same.

Monday, March 13.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,120 firkins of Butter, and 251 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports 5,752 casks of Butter.

HOPS.

Maidstone, March 11.—There has been a little more doing in the Hops this week, but we cannot say with any amendment in the prices.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, March 13.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	3	to 4	8
Mutton ...	3	10	— 4	8
Veal	5	2	— 6	2
Pork	4	10	— 5	8

Beasts ...	2,731	Sheep ..	15,840
Calves ...	110	Pigs ...	110

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	0	to 4	0
Mutton ...	3	0	— 4	0
Veal	3	8	— 5	8
Pork	3	8	— 5	8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	0	to 4	0
Mutton ...	3	4	— 4	0
Veal	3	8	— 5	4
Pork	3	8	— 5	4

COAL MARKET, March 10.

Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.

31½ Newcastle..	14½	29s. 0d. to 32s. 6d.
9 Sunderland..	7	35s. 6d. — 39s. 0d.

POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware	£3	5	to	5	10
Middlings.....	2	10	—	3	0
Chats	2	10	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0
Onions 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d. per bush.					

BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware	£3	0	to	5	0
Middlings.....	2	0	—	2	10
Chats	1	10	—	2	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0

HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....70s. to 90s.

Straw...36s. to 42s.

Clover.. 85s. to 110s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 60s. to 100s.

Straw .. 30s. to 46s.

Clover ..95s. to 110s.

Whitechapel.--Hay....66s. to 90s.

Straw...36s. to 40s.

Clover..80s. to 110s.

COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.
Aylesbury	60	68	0	35	38	0	16	27	0	39	43	0	48	50	0
Banbury	56	66	0	30	35	0	23	28	0	40	48	0	0	0	0
Basingstoke	56	66	0	30	36	0	23	28	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Bridport.....	58	62	0	31	32	0	24	26	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	48	66	0	28	32	0	23	30	0	28	34	0	32	50	0
Derby	58	63	0	26	33	0	21	28	0	38	48	0	0	0	0
Devizes.....	52	69	0	29	37	0	22	32	0	44	54	0	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	52	64	0	28	34	0	22	26	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	64	68	0	40	42	0	24	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eye	50	56	0	24	30	0	20	24	0	32	36	0	0	0	0
Guildford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henley	55	72	0	30	40	0	24	32	0	45	52	0	40	52	0
Horncastle.....	48	53	0	22	26	0	15	20	0	35	36	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	53	68	0	28	39	0	20	30	0	40	45	0	0	0	0
Lewes	48	60	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	0	0
Newbury	49	73	0	26	33	0	18	30	0	44	53	0	46	50	0
Northampton....	55	63	0	30	36	0	22	26	0	38	44	0	0	0	0
Nottingham	59	0	0	34	0	0	23	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0
Reading	56	70	0	28	38	0	20	29	0	44	49	0	43	47	0
Stamford.....	47	60	0	26	30	0	18	23	0	35	42	0	0	0	0
Stowmarket	50	58	0	24	31	0	24	28	0	32	0	0	36	0	0
Swansea	62	0	0	36	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro	61	0	0	34	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warminster.....	50	62	0	26	36	0	21	27	0	40	54	0	0	0	0
Winchester.....	50	62	0	28	34	0	23	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dalkeith*	27	32	6	21	25	0	16	21	6	16	18	0	17	19	0
Haddington*	22	31	0	20	25	6	16	24	0	17	19	6	17	19	6

* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

Liverpool, March 7.—Although the demand in this market, with only moderate supplies of Grain from Ireland and coastwise, was languid during the past week, yet at Manchester, on Saturday last, there appeared somewhat of an improved demand for Wheat and Oats from this port, at the reduced prices. At this day's market there was a tolerably fair attendance of buyers, who purchased more freely of Wheats, at a decline of 3d. per 70 lbs. The supply of Oats being small, sales to a fair extent were made at a reduction of only ½d. per 45 lbs. Malt and Malting Barley declined 2s. per quarter, and inferior qualities 3s. to 4s. per quarter; Beans were 1s. per quarter lower; and Flour and Oatmeal each 1s. per sack.

Imported into Liverpool from the 28th Feb. to 6th March, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 3,624; Barley, 638; Oats, 2,368; Malt, 804; Beans, 512; and Pease, 29 quarters. Flour, 3,190 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 797 packs, per 240 lbs.

Norwich, March 11.—The supply of both Wheat and Barley to-day was not large, and the prices higher than last week: Red Wheat sold from 48s. to 57s.; White, to 60s.; Barley, 20s. to 31s.; Oats, 18s. to 25s.; Beans, 32s. to 36s.; Pease, 34s. to 38s. per quarter; Boilers, none here; Summer Tares for seed, 8s. 6d. per bushel; and Flour, 44s. to 45s. per sack.

Bristol, March 11.—Very little business is doing in our Corn markets, the few quantities that are sold obtain about the prices hereafter stated. Supplies moderate:—Wheat, from 5s. to 8s.; Barley, 3s. to 8s.; Oats, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 3d.; Beans, 3s. 3d. to 6s. 3d.; and Malt, 5s. to 7s. per bushel. Flour, Seconds, 23s. to 44s. per bag.

Ipswich, March 11.—We had to-day a very short supply of all Grain, and prices were generally rather higher, as follow:—Wheat, 54s. to 60s.; Barley, 24s. to 33s.; Beans, 32s. to 35s.; and Pease, 37s. per quarter.

Wisbech, March 11.—The supply of Wheat and Oats is short for the season of the year, of Beans pretty good, for all which last week's quotations are fully supported.—Red Wheat, 46s. to 52s.; White ditto, 52s. to 54s.; Oats, 18s. to 22s.; and Beans, 32s. to 34s. per imperial qr.

Wakefield, March 10.—The extreme dull state of the Corn trade, and also declining prices, has caused a considerable deficiency in the supplies of Grain. To-day very little Wheat was offering, and the Millers being low in stocks, were compelled to give an advance of 2s. to 3s. per quarter, and nearly the whole bought up. Barley does not improve in value, and sales are still limited. Seed Oats are much inquired for, and fine Potatoes and Poland sell at 28s. to 30s. per quarter. Mealings Oats are quite as dear, and Shelling has found ready sale at last week's prices. Beans and other articles without variation.

Manchester, March 11.—Although we cannot notice any improvement in prices, yet the demand for most articles has rather improved. We have a very limited supply of every thing but Malt and Flour. Prices as under:—Wheat, English, 8s. 9d. to 9s. per bushel of 70lbs.; ditto, Irish, 7s. to 8s.; Oats, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d. per bushel of 45 lbs.; Barley, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 9d. per bushel of 60 lbs.; Beans, 46s. to 50s. per quarter; Malt, 44s. to 48s. per load; and Flour, 46s. to 48s. per sack of 280 lbs.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 11.—We had a good supply of Wheat from the farmers this morning, but the millers being very bare of stock, they gave readily 1s. per quarter advance upon all fresh samples, and they shewed a little more disposition to do business in Wheat in granary. No alteration in the price of Rye. Although we have had scarcely any fresh arrivals of Barley, the stock on hand is so heavy that prices must be noted 1s. per quarter lower. Malt continues dull sale, and is again cheaper.

COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &c.

Normich Castle Meadow, March 11.—We had a good supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, and the sale a little better than last week, prices 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; the supply of Store Stock was neither large, or good in quality; and the sale of Scots exceedingly stagnant, prices of what few that were sold were at 3s. 6d. to 4s. per stone when fat. The Sheep pens were better filled than last week. Pigs here in great numbers, and selling at low prices; fat ones to 7s. per stone.

Horncastle, March 11.—Beef, 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14lbs.; Mutton, 5d. to 6d.; Pork, 6d. to 7d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

Manchester, March 8.—The supply of Stock to this day's market was but moderate, and a scarcity of money evidently prevailed. Beef of good quality was scarce and lower in price, and inferior things were with difficulty sold. In Sheep the supply was pretty fair, but Mutton must be quoted at lower prices.—Beef, 5d. to 7d.; Mutton, 5½d. to 7d.; Veal, 6d. to 7½d.; and Pork, 4d. to 5½d. per lb., sinking offal.

AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended March 4, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	58	9	34	5	23	0
Essex.....	59	3	32	4	24	11
Kent.....	57	10	33	6	23	8
Sussex.....	56	3	35	7	19	7
Suffolk.....	54	4	31	8	25	9
Cambridgeshire.....	54	4	31	10	19	10
Norfolk.....	52	9	28	8	25	0
Lincolnshire.....	52	4	29	9	19	6
Yorkshire.....	50	5	31	7	19	2
Durham.....	57	11	0	0	26	8
Northumberland.....	52	2	44	3	25	1
Cumberland.....	59	4	31	3	21	9
Westmoreland.....	60	10	38	0	23	4
Lancashire.....	60	11	0	0	24	8
Cheshire.....	61	6	41	11	23	11
Gloucestershire.....	62	5	38	8	26	1
Somersetshire.....	62	11	37	11	22	3
Monmouthshire.....	61	10	36	11	25	0
Devonshire.....	59	10	33	8	21	6
Cornwall.....	61	6	33	6	24	0
Dorsetshire.....	58	8	31	2	25	0
Hampshire.....	57	4	34	2	24	3
North Wales.....	63	11	36	7	21	2
South Wales.....	60	10	31	8	17	4

* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.